

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ADDIS 04546 171112Z

44

ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 EB-07 IGA-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05

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FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4120

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ADDIS ABABA 4546

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR EAID ET US

SUBJECT: US ASSISTANCE TO ETHIOPIAN DEVELOPMENT
THROUGH COOPERATION CAMPAIGN

REFS: (A) ADDIS 4494 AND 1833

1. "ZAMETCHA," AS SUBJECT CAMPAIGN IS COMMONLY KNOWN HERE, IS EPMG'S FIRST BOOTSTRAPPING DEVELOPMENT EFFORT. AS SUCH, IT HAS BECOME SYMBOL OF ETHIOPIAN REFORM MOVEMENT'S ASPIRATION TO MAKE OVER ETHIOPIA AND TO SUBSTITUTE COOPERATIVE SELF-HELP EFFORTS FOR IMPERIAL PATERNALISM. FOCUS OF CAMPAIGN'S EFFORTS IS ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND THIS, OF COURSE, CONSISTENT WITH CURRENT USAID POLICY.

2. EPMG HAS INVESTED A GREAT DEAL POLITICALLY IN ZAMETCHA. APPROX. 50,000 STUDENTS HAVE NOW BEEN DEPLOYED INTO THE COUNTRY SIDE TO LAUNCH IT AND THE DEPLOYMENTS SHOULD SOON REACH THEIR PREPLANNED (60,000) CEILING. THE EMBASSY HAS REPORTED THE DIFFICULTIES WHICH THE CAMPAIGN IS PREDICTABLE ENCOUNTERING IN ITS INCEPTION AS WELL AS THE FIRST INDICATIONS OF ITS MODEST INITIAL LOCALIZED SUCCESSES.

WE THINK WE ARE BEGINNING TO SEE EVIDENCE THAT THE LATTER ARE INCREASING IN NUMBER AS EXPERIENCE IS BEING GAINED, OBSTACLES ARE OVERCOME, THE ZAMETCHOCH ACHIEVE LOCAL ACCEPTANCE AND SETTLE
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PAGE 02 ADDIS 04546 171112Z

INTO THEIR RURAL CENTERS OF OPERATION.

3. WE CAN THINK OF FEW UNDERTAKINGS NOW IN COURSE HERE IN WHICH
EVEN A MODEST US CONTRIBUTION WOULD CARRY MORE POLITICAL CLOUT.
WE BELIEVE THAT SUCH CONTRIBUTION WOULD WELL SERVE THE INTERESTS
OF THE US AND GO SOME WAY TO EASING THE CURRENT STRESSES AND
STRAINS IN THE BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP. ACCORDINGLY, WE RECOMMEND
THAT THE EPMG'S REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE TO THE ZAMETCHA SET FORTH IN
THE REFERENCE TELEGRAMS BE MET EXPEDITIOUSLY.
HUMMEL

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